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## BOOK DEPARTMENT

### NOTES

AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, PUBLICATIONS OF THE. Vol. VI. *Papers and Proceedings of Sixth Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Society, December, 1911.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1912.

ANDERSON, F. I. *The Farmer of Tomorrow.* Pp. 308. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1913.

The main contribution of this volume is a discussion of the relatively new doctrine that "The soil is the one indestructible, immutable asset that the nation possesses. It is the one resource that cannot be exhausted; that cannot be used up. It may be impaired by abuse, but never destroyed." This doctrine is compared with the former theory (and the one still taught, the author states, in the agricultural colleges, and held to by all the agricultural papers) that soils do wear out, and that the farmer must feed the soil, in proportion as his soil feeds his crop. The theory that the soil is an immutable asset accepts, of course, the fact that the soil may have its productiveness impaired or lowered, but it accounts for lower production on the ground that soils do not wear out but merely grow "fatigued." This new theory of soil fertility holds that each crop exudes a poison analogous to the poisons set free in the human system under fatigue, and that the proper method of restoring the fertility of the soil, therefore, is "to bring the flora and micro-fauna of the soil under control. Partial sterilization effects this; such antiseptics as chloroform, toluene, etc., eliminate certain organisms which check the useful bacteria. Heating to boiling for two hours doubles productivity and is practical in greenhouses. The problem is to domesticate the unseen flora and fauna of the soil, the useful races to be encouraged, the noxious races suppressed."

The book is interestingly written and full of many vital discussions. The author shows that 70 per cent of the farms are still being worked as a means of labor and not as business propositions, and feels that we are in a transition period between the older notion that the farm is a means of labor and the newer theory that it is a capital and must be made to pay interest. To show the significance of the increased amount of capital invested in farms, the author states that the tax value of the average acre of farm land in 1900 was \$15.57 while in 1910 it was \$32.40, an increase in land values during these ten years of 100.5 per cent.

ANDREWS, C. McLEAN. *The Colonial Period.* Pp. vii, 256. Price, 50 cents. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1912.

This excellent volume in the Home University Library series differs in several interesting respects from the usual treatment of the American colonies. It emphasizes the conditions in England that affected the colonies and outlines the English policies of colonial control, thus making clear both the dependence

of early American history upon European conditions and, more specifically, the events leading to the Revolutionary War. Two chapters deal with England; two, with the colonies; and six, with the relations between the colonies and the home land and among the colonies themselves.

No effort is made to treat the colonies separately, nor to narrate their chronological development, but a broad view is taken of the British possessions in America as a whole, Canada and the West Indies included. In this way a unity of viewpoint is secured that is often sacrificed in the topical method of study. The chapters devoted to colonial, political and social characteristics and to economic life and influence are particularly suggestive and represent the newer tendencies in historical writing. For any one who has some knowledge of the detailed facts of colonial history, this book is perhaps the best treatment, within the compass of two hundred pages, of the colonial period as a whole.

BAGOT, RICHARD. *Italians of Today*. Pp. 187. Price, \$1.25. Chicago: F. G. Browne and Company, 1913.

Two objects stand out in this interesting little volume. The first is to present a description of the salient characteristics of the Italian people, the second to refute the charges made against the Italian soldiery of the Tripolitan war. The author has been a resident of the peninsula for many years and portrays Italian traits from an intimate personal knowledge. He feels that Englishmen are too apt in visiting Italy to see only the attractions of Rome and fail to give proper attention to the remarkable performances of modern Italy. This leads not only to a lamentable ignorance on the part of the English public but to a lack of understanding. This has estranged two nations which should stand shoulder to shoulder not only because of similarity of virtues but because of the coincidence of their interests in the Mediterranean. The author feels that the attitude of the English press during Italy's war with Turkey has produced an unfortunate conviction in the Italian mind that the English are not only misinformed but wilfully unfair. Documents are quoted at length to justify the Italian declaration of war and to prove that though the Italian treatment of the Arabs was severe it was highly justified by circumstances.

BARROWS, ISABEL C. *A Sunny Life—The Biography of Samuel J. Barrows*. Pp. xi, 323. Price, \$1.50. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1913.

The many friends of the late Samuel June Barrows will welcome this biographical tribute. Mrs. Barrows has presented a wealth of personal material, together with a detailed account of his public career. It is given to but few men to exert a wider personal influence than did Dr. Barrows. Thrown upon his own resources as a mere lad, he struggled to secure an education, entered the liberal ministry, passed into editorial work, then to Congress, and later to the work to which the greater part of his life was devoted—that of the Prison Association of New York. At the time of his death he was president of the International Prison Congress. The success of the Washington Congress, 1910, was in a great measure due to his great ability in planning; but he did not live to preside.

BLAKEY, ROY G. *The United States Beet-Sugar Industry and the Tariff*. Pp. 286. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1912.

BOGART, ERNEST L. *Financial History of Ohio*. Pp. 358. Urbana: University of Illinois, 1912.

Part I, 180 pages, is devoted to a discussion of the financial and economic history of Ohio, state receipts and expenditures from 1803 to date, and the budgetary practices and methods of financial administration. Part II, 175 pages, then discusses the history of the land tax, general property tax from 1825 to 1851 and under the constitution of 1851, the history and taxation of banks and banking, of railroads and business and miscellaneous taxes.

His conclusions he states throughout the volume. Thus he finds that the early period of state finance, ending in 1825, was accompanied by thrift and economy; that beginning with 1825, there was an increase in taxation and debt due to the state's comprehensive policy of internal improvements, most of the revenue for which was obtained by loans and miscellaneous receipts from the sale of land. The state's finances during this time, however, quite in contrast with Pennsylvania's history during the same period, were administered carefully and economically, and the early canals were built, on the whole, cheaply. But beginning with 1845 there occurred "a decade of legislative extravagance, of administrative dishonesty, and of private and corporate corruption, which happily is unique in the history of the state." The Civil War brought efficiency into the state's financial administration again, which continued until the revival of prosperity following the industrial depression of 1873. With the revival of prosperity, "the general assembly embarked again upon a career of improvidence if not extravagance." This extravagance, it appears, continued until about 1895 when the state began to place its finances on a firm and stable basis. Now they suffer only from the "hand-to-mouth policy of an elective legislature and executive, chosen for short terms and anxious to be returned to office." The whole study is inclusive and scholarly.

BOWSFIELD, C. C. *Making the Farm Pay*. Pp. 300. Price, \$1.00. Chicago: Forbes and Company, 1913.

A sufficiently, not to say questionably, hopeful account of the possibilities of profit from farming by the better methods now becoming more common, as diversified and more intensive cultivation, green manuring, silos, increased live-stock raising, farm accounting, etc.

BRAWLEY, B. G. *A Short History of the American Negro*. Pp. xvi, 247. Price, \$1.25. New York: Macmillan Company, 1913.

It is significant that an increasing number of Negroes are interested in their own historic backgrounds. To such this volume will be welcome. It presents little new material but it tells the story accurately and interestingly. The relation to the whites, education, religion, and achievement in all good things are treated. It would be well if all Negroes should read and ponder the last chapter "Negro Achievement in Literature, Art and Invention." It might create hope should whites likewise reflect on this record.

BROOKS, JOHN GRAHAM. *American Syndicalism*. Pp. 264. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1913.

For years John Graham Brooks has been one of the recognized authorities on the American social unrest. His contribution to the problem of syndicalism, the latest and by far the most spectacular form of that unrest, is not only timely, but carries with it a weight of mature authority. Mr. Brooks is radical in the ordinary sense of the term; yet when he deals with a movement like the Industrial Workers of the World, his attitude smacks of conservatism. He sees the need for change and recognizes the importance of action, but counsels strongly against ill-advised, impulsive movements. He counsels reason.

BROWN, SAMUEL W. *Secularization of American Education*. Pp. 160. Price, \$1.50. New York: Teachers' College, Columbia University, 1912.

BUSSELL, F. W. *A New Government for the British Empire*. Pp. xii, 108. Price, \$1.25. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1912.

COLBY, F. M. *The New International Year Book for the Year 1912*. Pp. 882. Price, \$5.00. New York: Dodd, Mead and Company, 1913.

*Common School and the Negro American, The*. Pp. 140. Price, 75 cents. Atlanta: The Atlanta University Press.

Anyone who wishes to know about present educational opportunities for Negroes will find this study very helpful. It gives in concise form information with reference to conditions in the various states.

DEVEREAUX, ROY. *Aspects of Algeria*. Pp. xi, 315. Price, \$3.50. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company, 1912.

One-third of the volume is taken up with descriptions of a traveler's first impression of the country and a sketch of its varied history. The rest of the volume discusses the French occupation and its results. Though the style is sketchy this latter portion is interesting and instructive. The results of the detailed statistical studies of the colonial office are presented in summary and a good description is given of the progress made in encouraging immigration, promoting irrigation and establishing security for property.

Though the material accomplishments of the republic receive unqualified praise the author like most English writers sees much to criticise in the manner in which the improvements are accomplished. Least to be defended is the horde of prefects, subprefects and officers of various other grades which the republic has introduced to preserve uniformity of organization. Everything is planned too much on the model of Paris. The policy of granting subventions for the development of southern Algeria the author regards as unfortunate, though a similar long continued policy of "grants in aid" to islands in the West Indies shows that English practice at least until recently, bore no strong contrast to that of France. The author believes that the arrangement by which Great Britain in 1904 gave France a free hand in West Africa in return for the surrender of unimportant fishing privileges in Newfoundland and a free hand in Egypt

was a bad blunder on the part of the English foreign office. A brief chapter on Tunis shows its relation to Algeria and the importance of Italian immigration. Though Morocco, Algiers and Tunis are destined to be under the political protection of the tricolor, the economic possession of the land, it is asserted will fall to men of Spanish and Italian blood. The volume contains an excellent map of Algiers and Tunis.

DUTTON, SAMUEL T. and SNEDDEN D. *The Administration of Public Education in the United States*. Pp. x, 614. Price, \$2.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1912.

GODDARD, HENRY H. *The Kallikak Family*. Pp. xv, 121. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1912.

GOULD, C. P. *The Land System in Maryland, 1720-1765*. Pp. vii, 101. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1913.

GRIFFITH, W. L. *The Dominion of Canada*. Pp. x, 450. Price, \$3.00. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1912.

Mr. Griffith divides his book into a large number of short chapters each of which contains a concise essay on some phase of Canadian development or life. The first portion which traces the history of Canada and the relations with the mother country shows a touch of the feeling of rivalry if not of resentment toward the United States which still influences many Canadians. The latter three-fourths of the book however, abound with praise for those who make up the American Invasion, which has done so much to transform Canada's agriculture, industry and social and political conditions. Like all other larger British colonies the great development of the Dominion still lies in the future. For this reason the chapters discussing agricultural lands, fishing, mining and forest resources are especially interesting. No one of the majority of Americans who still look upon Canada as a land whose possibilities are narrowly restricted by a long severe winter can read these pages without an increased appreciation of our northern neighbor.

In this time when our own governments are undergoing so thorough an inspection by public opinion the chapters dealing with the organization of the public powers are no less interesting. The relations with England furnish the basis for a valuable comparison with the expedients adopted and to be adopted for the government of our own outlying possessions. The adaptation of the parliamentary system to the provinces, the peculiar division of powers between central and local governments, and the practice of "executive disallowance" all furnish instructive comparisons with our own institutions. Equally important and little known to citizens of the United States are the extensive governmental activities of Canada for popularizing the telegraph and telephone service, improving transportation, facilitating the settlement of labor disputes and promoting the establishment of minimum wage scales in the cities. Throughout the book the author has made an effort to present the latest governmental statistics to enforce his argument.

HAYNES, G. E. *The Negro at Work in New York City*. Pp. 158. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1912.

HENDERSON, L. J. *The Fitness of the Environment*. Pp. 317. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1913.

In recent years we have heard a great deal about the adaptation of living organisms to the physical environment. That this is really a reciprocal relationship so that it is quite as proper to speak of the fitness of the environment is rarely suggested. Yet this is the thesis of the author as indicated by the subtitle: "An Inquiry into the Biological Significance of the Properties of Matter." The result is a most intensely interesting and suggestive volume.

Fitness, the Environment, Water, Carbonic Acid, the Ocean, Chemistry of the Three Elements, the Argument, Life and the Cosmos are the chapter headings.

Carbon, hydrogen, oxygen are set forth as the three chief factors on which life depends—indeed with little question as the only elements making life possible. Their multitudinous forms and power of change are of vast significance. The general student will find some most stimulating ideas in the discussion of water.

The last two chapters are really devoted to a discussion of vitalism vs. mechanism. "There are no other compounds which share more than a small part of the fitness of water and carbonic acid; no other elements which share those of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen." The author believes that mechanism must win the day and that the supposed rôle of vitalism (despite Bergson) grows daily smaller.

This is a significant and striking study.

HIGGINSON, JOHN H. *Tariffs at Work*. Pp. xiv, 136. Price, 2/. London: P. S. King and Son, 1913.

This little book, in which the author has purposely refrained from making any reference to the economic and political aspects of the tariff problem, presents an outline of practical tariff administration, with especial reference to the United States and Canada. The tariff systems in operation in the different countries are briefly described, and the attempt is made, from a non-partisan viewpoint, to analyze their comparative advantages and disadvantages. The analysis, however, has hardly been sufficiently thorough to justify the conclusions drawn. For example, the conclusion is reached, in a short chapter on *ad valorem* and specific duties, in which only one page is devoted to a discussion of compound duties, and four pages to a discussion of specific duties, that the balance of advantage, from the standpoint of scientific tariff administration, lies on the side of specific duties.

HOLMES, ARTHUR. *The Conservation of a Child*. Pp. 345. Price, \$1.25. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1912.

HOWERTH, IRA W. *Work and Life*. Pp. 278. Price, \$1.50. New York: Sturgis and Walton Company, 1913.

Among those who purpose to teach economic and social doctrines, none has a clearer view of the social element in the problem than Professor Howerth. Perhaps he may err by overstatement, but surely no one can accuse him of any illegitimate relations with the hidebound individualism of the nineteenth century. Professor Howerth sees the importance of wealth; he realizes the significance of competition in any well-organized scheme of life; but at the same time he recognizes the changes in the past few decades as pointing toward a new era, in which the social ideal will dominate individual caprice, and in which competition will have given place to well-directed coöperation. *Work and Life* strikes a harmonious note in the great world outline of social advance.

KOSER, R. *Friedrich der Grosse*. Pp. 533. Stuttgart: T. G. Cotta's Son.

MCVEY, FRANK L. *The Making of a Town*. Pp. 221. Price, \$1.00. Chicago: A. C. McClurg and Company, 1913.

In an easy, chatty style, the author has presented, amateurishly enough, the problems involved in town-climbing. The subjects ordinarily treated have been fully covered, yet one cannot but feel after laying down the book that it lacks bookishness and authority. For the beginner the book may prove useful; for the student of social science it carries no message.

MOLL, ALBERT. *The Sexual Life of the Child*. Pp. xv, 339. Price, \$1.75. New York: Macmillan Company, 1912.

MURDOCH, JOHN G. *Economics as the Basis of Living Ethics*. Pp. x, 373. Price, \$2.00. Troy: Allen Book and Printing Company, 1913.

The author, a former mental science fellow and now a professor of the English language, has attempted in this volume to cover the two fields of ethics and economics. Nor is he content with a narrow interpretation of the terms. The economic phases of history; the development of property theory; distribution theory; the ethics of Kant; economic determinism, and a minute analysis of the leading writers on political economy, make up the groundwork of his study. The author's basis in study has apparently been of the broadest, exceeded in breadth only by the extent of his ambition. Yet his statements, in so far as they concern economics, bespeak the letter, rather than the spirit of the things which he describes. Although he knows the text that he has conned, the wherefore lies in a realm beyond his ken. The book itself is loosely written, extremely general, and sometimes even careless in statement. His decision to place "the substance or a summary of the passages referred to in single quotation marks," is typical of this attitude. Lacking, as the author does, any intimate knowledge of the subjects with which he deals, and likewise of the art of bookmaking, the present volume fails completely either as a scientific or a readable statement of the relation which it purports to discuss.



MYERS, PHILIP V. *History as Past Ethics*. Pp. xii, 287. Price, \$1.50 Boston: Ginn and Company, 1913.

In the field of historical literature the name of the author of this volume is a synonym for accuracy and sound scholarship. His vividness of style, clearness of description, and sense of perspective have earned for his work an international reputation. After thirty years of general historical writing he has entered a specific field and produced a volume which lacks none of the charm of his previous writings. The history of past ethics is a narrative and not an interpretation. It is no effort to invade the field of the philosophy of ethics, but a serious effort to view the subject historically and thereby supply the material for inductive studies. It seeks to supplement rather than to supplant such writings as those of Westermarck and Hobbhouse. This accounts for the apparent lack of causes assigned for varied and changing moral ideas, codes and standards among the different races of mankind and among the same races at different epochs. The book is not without practical aim as regards either the service history may render to theoretical science or to practical social service. It is difficult to determine at one reading whether teachers of history or of ethics will find the book of greatest service. It will undoubtedly be suggestive and stimulating to both.

ORRIS, W. G. *The National Health Insurance Act*. Pp. 20. Price, 6d. London: P. S. King and Son, 1913.

PARSONS, ELSIE C. *The Old-Fashioned Woman—Primitive Fancies about the Sex*. Pp. viii, 373. Price, \$1.50. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1913.

Mrs. Parsons gives us in her *Old-Fashioned Woman* an interesting and valuable enumeration of the primitive ideas attached to woman in the various stages of civilization. Beginning with the creation of woman, she goes on to babyhood, the girl as a *débutante*, engaged, on her honeymoon, unwed, and about to become that fearsome phenomenon so long called the "old maid," married and a mother, widowed, and divorced. She characterizes her work and play, her dress, her value, and other ear marks as she humorously calls them, her value to the other sex and her sphere and place in the hierarchies. At each of these various phases she draws attention to the prevailing superstitions governing the conduct and actions of woman.

The primitive custom of the savage and the foolish superstition of our day are shown alike in their true color and perspective. We see woman as she has been for centuries, a creature so custom-bound that it has been almost impossible, until recently, for her to express her real self.

The book is carefully and sanely written, with exhaustive reference, index and table, giving location of primitive peoples. It is well worth a thorough perusal.

PEABODY, R. E. *Merchant Venturers of Old Salem*. Pp. 168. Price, \$2.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1912.

Mr. Peabody gives a pleasing account of the commercial ventures of the Derby's, the family of Salem merchants, who, during the eighteenth century, built up an extensive foreign trade with Europe and the Indies. The good

description of the peculiar organization of the foreign trade of the period makes the work highly instructive; and the delightful flavor of romance contained in the story of the adventurous life of the enterprising New England skippers keeps the interest of the reader constantly aroused.

PENSON, T. H. *The Economics of Everyday Life*. Pp. xiii, 176. Price, \$1.00. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1913.

This book is strictly elementary in character. It would hardly prove acceptable as a text-book, as it contains no treatment of such important topics, as banking, international trade, taxation, labor problems, or railways. It might, however, be of interest to teachers of the fundamental principles of economics, and may possibly be found useful to business men, who have only a limited opportunity to take up the study of economics. But even for this class of readers, it is, as indicated in the preface, to be regarded merely as a stepping stone to more advanced study.

PIGOU, A. C. *Wealth and Welfare*. Pp. xxxi, 488. Price, \$3.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1912.

RAY, P. ORMAN. *An Introduction to Political Parties and Practical Politics*. Pp. xiii, 493. Price, \$1.50. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1913.

The contents of this volume are divided into four parts: Present-Day National Parties; Nominating Methods; Campaigns and Elections, and The Party in Power. The volume is most inclusive in its contents, covering practically every phase of the organization and methods of political parties, and also such questions as civil service, recall, legislative procedure, gerrymandering, log-rolling, legislative reference libraries, initiative and referendum, presidential preference primaries, publicity laws, remedial legislation as to party receipts and expenditures, "grandfather" clauses, speakership and committee system, direct elections, the short ballot, and national, state and local committees. Party machinery and campaign methods, however, are given but a short chapter each. This under-emphasis is probably the only criticism that can be made of the book from the point of view of a complete text-book.

Each of the chapters covers the usual material well and pointedly, though there is no distinctive contribution in any part of the volume. It does bring together, however, all the material on the subject and will make an ideal text-book for introductory classes in political parties and party methods.

ROBBINS, E. C. *Selected Articles on the Commission Plan of Municipal Government*. (3d and enlarged edition.) Pp. xxix, 180. Price, \$1.00. Minneapolis: H. W. Wilson Company, 1912.

This handbook contains the arguments for and against commission government, a detailed bibliography and extended excerpts from the literature on both sides of the question. The excerpts include the general discussion of the subject from L. S. Rowe's *Problems in City Government* and William Bennett Munro's "Galveston Plan of City Government," in the *National Municipal Review*, 1907.

The affirmative discussion includes articles by E. R. Sherman, E. R. Cheesborough, E. S. Bradford and liberal excerpts from Des Moines papers. The negative discussion includes excerpts from the works of Rear-Admiral F. E. Chadwick, Prof. F. I. Herriott, C. O. Holly, W. W. Wise, and liberal excerpts from *Plain Talk* of Des Moines.

SABY, R. S. *Railroad Legislation in Minnesota, 1849 to 1875*. Pp. 188. St. Paul: The Volkszeitung Company, 1912.

This work on railroad legislation in Minnesota, which was submitted as a Doctor's thesis at the University of Pennsylvania, contains a full account of early railroad regulation in Minnesota, of early land grants and other public aid to railroads in Minnesota, and of the granger legislation and movement of the seventies. The discussion of the granger movement, which is especially complete, is not confined to Minnesota, but is a study of the entire movement. It contains an interesting statement of the motives of the grangers, the legislation enacted, and its results.

THOMPSON, C. W. and WARBER, G. P. *Social and Economic Survey of a Rural Township in Southern Minnesota*. Pp. v, 75. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 1913.

UNDERWOOD, F. M. *United Italy*. Pp. xiv, 360. Price, \$3.50. New York: George H. Doran Company, 1912.

Though this book is interestingly written and presents material not elsewhere easily obtainable in English, it does not satisfy one who asks for an account of the foundations of Italian life. Perhaps it is to be expected that writers on Latin peoples should reflect the most prominent surface characteristics of the nations which they describe but it is unfortunate that outsiders at least cannot oftener see the relative unimportance of political changes and the great meaning of economic and social movements and the laws which aim to direct them. Ten of the author's fifteen chapters are devoted to a description of party changes, foreign policy, the royal family and the relations of church and state. Three others discuss the progress in science and the fine arts. Only two, an excellent chapter on south Italy and a summary called Italian Progress, treat the general social and economic conditions of the kingdom. There is no adequate treatment of the growth of Italian industries, the problem of land holding, education, sanitation, and the organization of peasant or middle class life. There is a fair description of the work of Crispi, especially of his financial operations. The terrorism of the Mafia in Sicily and of the Camorra in southern Italy is well discussed. The excellent contrasts drawn in the chapter showing the differences between Italy of a generation ago and of the present time make one wish that this portion on commerce, industry, agriculture and population had been given the prominence it deserves.

USHER, ROLAND G. *Pan Germanism*. Pp. viii, 314. Price, \$1.75. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1913.

Around the projects of pan Germanism the author groups a highly interesting discussion of the present alliances of the great powers. The marshalling

of facts is skillfully done, done with such facility in fact that the careful reader constantly makes reservations as to the accuracy of conclusions drawn. Indeed a large part of the argument can not fail to be unauthoritative since no one has access to sources of information which would allow the categorical statement of the motives impelling the various powers. This must of necessity be the case nor does the author claim to make a definite analysis of the movements he describes. Accepting these limitations, however, the student of international affairs will find this a book of absorbing interest. The author is peculiarly fortunate in placing himself successfully in the position of one arguing the case of each power whose ambitions and motives he has under discussion. He portrays the unfortunate position of Germany, a country which entered the race too late to secure either colonies of exploitation or settlement, but which has a population and trade rapidly expanding for which she seeks an outlet. England, France, Russia and the United States, the great colonial powers, find themselves forced into alliance against Germany with her allies Austria and Italy. The control of the world, especially of the east, is the prize in the competition. Recent developments in Morocco, Tripoli, Persia and Central America are only incidents in the same world wide play for universal dominion. The Moroccan incident was a defeat for pan Germanism, the Tripolitan war tipped the scale in the other direction but the Balkan struggle again turns the balance to the disadvantage of the Triple Alliance. The money power is the controlling factor in determining peace and war and therefore in determining the success of pan German ambitions. On the whole the outlook for realization of German ambitions is gloomy. The sweep of the comparisons and the acuteness with which the complicated elements of present day world politics are analyzed make this a book in which no one can fail to be interested even though the basis of the argument is and must be largely conjecture.

VICE COMMISSION OF PHILADELPHIA, THE. *A Report on Existing Conditions with Recommendations to the Hon. Rudolph Blankenburg, Mayor of Philadelphia.* Pp. viii, 164. Philadelphia: The Vice Commission, 1913.

WALTER, H. E. *Genetics: An Introduction to the Study of Heredity.* Pp. xiv, 272. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1913.

This is to be rated as one of the very best books in this field. It contains little rambling discussion but gives in a clean-cut and concise way evidence thus far gathered and a statement of different theories. It is not too technical for one unversed in biology though such a person will not read it rapidly.

The chapter headings will indicate the contents: The Carriers of the Heritage, Variation, Mutation, The Inheritance of Acquired Characters, The Pure Line, Segregation and Dominance, Reversion to Old Types and the Making of New Ones, Blending Inheritance, The Determination of Sex, The Application to Man, and Human Conservation.

The volume contains many excellent diagrams and illustrations. In view of the steadily increasing interest in these problems such a summary of the work of the leading students is most welcome.

WEATHERFORD, W. D. *Negro Life in the South*. Pp. 181; *Present Forces in Negro Progress*. Pp. 191. Price, 50 cents each. New York: Association Press, 1912.

These two hand-books were published by the author in response to a demand for definite, concrete and usable information concerning the Negro in the South, for use in Y. M. C. A. classes studying social problems. The author has gathered with considerable care statistical and other information concerning the Negro's progress and general conditions throughout the South. As the titles indicate, the first is a study of the economic, social and religious conditions of the Negroes, and contains not only the description, but the explanation and interpretation of such conditions with suggested remedies for their improvement.

The second volume is a description of the changes taking place in population, the development of race pride and leadership, together with the story of the Negro's progress in farming and in industry, and the general development of educational and religious life. It would be difficult to find an equal amount of information without the survey of an extended literature.

The books are not only well adapted to their purpose but supply admirably the demand for facts and general information.

WEBB, WALTER L. *The Economics of Railroad Construction*. (2d Ed.) Pp. viii, 347. Price, \$2.50. New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1912.

Because of changes made by the Interstate Commerce Commission in the classification of operating expenses since the publication of the first edition of his work, Professor Webb has found it advisable to offer a second edition, in which his computations will conform to the new classification. With the revision necessitated by the changes in accounting, the use of statistics collected since the former edition appeared, and numerous other modifications introduced for the purpose of making comparisons or explaining the significance of late changes in recent railroad conditions in the United States, the author has given us practically an entirely new work. The plan of the book is the same as that used in the first edition. From a skillful presentation of the financial and legal, the operating, and the physical aspects of the problem of railway building and operation, certain conclusions are derived which form the basis of general principles for the guidance of constructing and operating engineers.

## REVIEWS

BEARD, CHARLES A. *An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States*. Pp. vii, 330. Price, \$2.25. New York: Macmillan Company, 1913.

The author modestly calls this work "a long and arid survey—partaking of the nature of a catalogue." Far from being arid, it is replete with human interest and compact with information of importance to every student of American history or of political science.